

Application/Control Number: 10/784,415
Art Unit: 3738
Office Action Dated: November 22, 2005

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What is Claimed:

(Currently Amended) A method for implanting surgical device, said method comprising:

- a. providing a surgical device comprising an elongated flexible inflatable portion, an elongated flexible and substantially inextensible band portion having a distal end, a proximal end and a longitudinal axis therebetween, said band portion being attached to said inflatable portion along an inner face thereof, said band portion having a concave cross section, taken perpendicular to said longitudinal axis; and
 - b. deforming said band so that it has a substantially flatlinear cross section, taken perpendicular to said longitudinal axis, by encircling said band around body tissue.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of attaching said distal and proximal ends of said band together.
 3. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of attaching an injection port to said device so as to be in fluid communication with said inflatable portion.
 4. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of withdrawing fluid from said inflatable portion.
 5. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of adding fluid to said inflatable portion.

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6. (Currently Amended) A method for implanting surgical device, said method comprising:
 - a. providing a surgical device comprising an elongated flexible band portion having a distal end, a proximal end and a longitudinal axis therebetween, said band portion having a concave cross section, taken perpendicular to said longitudinal axis, and a means for attaching said distal and proximal ends of said band together;
 - b. deforming said band so that it has a substantially ~~flat~~linear cross section, taken perpendicular to said longitudinal axis, by encircling said band around body tissue; and
 - c. attaching said distal and proximal ends of said band together
7. (Original) The method of claim 6 further comprising the step of attaching an injection port to said device so as to be in fluid communication with said inflatable portion.
8. (Original) The method of claim 6 further comprising the step of withdrawing fluid from said inflatable portion.
9. (Original) The method of claim 6 further comprising the step of adding fluid to said inflatable portion.